

HOUSE BILL 2036
By Jones S

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63,
Chapter 7, relative to the administration of
anesthetic agents by non-anesthesia-trained
nurses.

WHEREAS, medications, agents, and substances classified as hypnotics and further defined as suitable for the induction or maintenance of general anesthesia can cause unique, unpredictable, and potentially life threatening changes in vital signs and levels of consciousness in individuals to whom they are administered. Their administration must be restricted to health care practitioners who have the advanced and specialized training, education, skills, and experience necessary to induce and manage states of general anesthesia. Utilization of these agents by individuals not specifically educated, trained, and experienced to manage these agents and their side effects poses a real and present danger to the public; and

WHEREAS, individuals administering such agents must have successfully completed an accredited program of anesthesia education and possess current certification from a nationally recognized anesthesia certification body, in order to protect patients; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

63-7-127.

No licensed nurse may administer anesthesia or medications, agents, and substances classified as hypnotics and further defined as suitable for the induction or maintenance of general anesthesia unless performed by a certified registered nurse anesthetist, a graduate registered nurse anesthetist, or a registered nurse currently enrolled in a nurse anesthesia educational program accredited by the Council on

Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs, or its successor, except in an emergency situation as defined by rules promulgated by the Tennessee board of nursing.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.